

GD-080-PHS-EMS: Drug Profile for Vasopressin

This is the Arizona Department of Health Services' recommendation for the use of this drug in the prehospital setting.

GENERIC NAME:**VASOPRESSIN****CLASS:** pituitary (antidiuretic) hormone**Mechanism of Action:**

Causes vasoconstriction (pressor effect) of peripheral, cerebral, pulmonary, and coronary vessels

Indications and Field Use:

Adult shock-refractory ventricular fibrillation/pulseless ventricular tachycardia

Contraindications:

- Responsive patient with coronary artery disease
- Hypertension

Adverse Reactions:

- Can increase peripheral vascular resistance and provoke cardiac ischemia and angina pectoris
- Abdominal distress
- Nausea and vomiting
- Tremors
- Tissue necrosis if extravasation occurs

NOTES ON ADMINISTRATION**Incompatibilities/Drug Interactions:**

None in the emergency setting

Adult Dosage:

For ventricular fibrillation/pulseless ventricular tachycardia: 40 U, one time only prior to administration of epinephrine

Routes of Administration:

IV, IO, ET